

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF DELAWARE

ASTROPOWER LIQUIDATING TRUST,
f/k/a ASTROPOWER, INC.,

Plaintiff,

v.

KPMG, LLP,

Defendant.

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Civil Action No. 06-469 (JJF)

RULE 16 SCHEDULING ORDER

The Parties having satisfied their obligations under Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(f),

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. **Pre-Discovery Disclosures.** The Parties will exchange a list of witnesses with knowledge and current contact information (as known to the Parties at this time) on or before September 28, 2007. The Parties have agreed that the other categories of information set forth in Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(a)(1) and D. Del. LR 16.2 need not be exchanged through initial disclosures.

2. **Joinder of other Parties.** The deadline by which either of the Parties may cause a summons and complaint to be served upon a party not presently a party to this matter is December 1, 2007.

3. **Discovery.**

(a) Exchange and completion of interrogatories, identification of all fact witnesses, and document production shall be commenced so as to be completed by May 16, 2008.

(b) A maximum of twenty-five (25) interrogatories may be served by each Party on any other Party.

(c) A maximum of twenty-five (25) requests for admission may be served by each Party on any other Party.

(d) A maximum of twenty (20) depositions may be taken by plaintiff(s) and a maximum of twenty (20) depositions may be taken by defendant(s). This includes expert depositions. Depositions shall not commence until the discovery required by Paragraph 4 (a, b, and c) are completed.

(e) The Parties shall make all disclosures required by Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(a)(2)(A)-(B) regarding expert witnesses offered by either Party on an issue on which that Party has the burden of proof by June 13, 2008. The Parties shall make all disclosures required by the above-referenced rules regarding expert witnesses offered by either Party on an issue on which that Party does not have the burden of proof by July 18, 2008. The Parties shall complete all discovery pertaining to expert witnesses by September 12, 2008.

(f) The Parties agree to waive this court's form requirement that any Party desiring to depose an expert witness shall notice and complete said deposition no later than thirty (30) days from receipt of said expert's report.

4. Discovery Disputes.

(a) A Party seeking discovery which the opposing Party refuses to provide shall file a motion (no brief) pursuant to Rule 37 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and Local Rule 37.1. Said motion shall not exceed a total of four (4) pages. An Answer to the Rule 37 motion, not to exceed four (4) pages, shall be filed within five (5) days of service of the motion. No reply is permitted.

(b) All papers shall set forth in a plain and concise manner the issue(s) in dispute, the Party's position on the issue(s), and the reasons for the Party's position.

(c) Upon receipt of the Answer, the movant shall notify Chambers by e-mail at jjf_civil@ded.uscourts.gov that the Parties have completed briefing.

(d) Upon receipt of the movant's e-mail, the Court will determine whether a conference is necessary and advise the Parties accordingly.

(e) There is no limit on the number of Rule 37 motions a Party may file, unless otherwise ordered by the Court.

5. **Amendment of the Pleadings.** The deadline by which either of the Parties may amend their pleadings is December 1, 2007.

6. **Case Dispositive Motions.** Any case dispositive motions, pursuant to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, shall be served and filed with an opening brief on or before November 7, 2008. Briefing shall be pursuant to D. Del. LR 7.1.2. No case dispositive motion may be filed more than ten (10) days from the above date without leave of the Court.

7. **Applications by Motion.**

(a) Any applications to the Court shall be by written motion filed with the Clerk of the Court in compliance with the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and the Local Rules of Civil Practice for the United States District Court for the District of Delaware (Amended Effective January 1, 1995). Any non-dispositive motion shall contain the statement required by D. Del. LR 7.1.1. Briefs shall be limited to no more than ten (10) pages. Parties may file stipulated and unopposed Orders with the Clerk of the Court for the Court's review and signing. The Court will not consider applications and requests submitted by letter or in a form other than a motion.

(b) No facsimile transmissions will be accepted.

(c) No telephone calls shall be made to Chambers.

(d) Any Party with a true emergency matter requiring the assistance of the Court shall e-mail Chambers at: jjf_civil@ded.uscourts.gov. The e-mail shall provide a short statement describing the emergency.

Pretrial Conference and Trial. A pre-trial status conference will be conducted by the Court on a date and time agreed upon by the Parties and confirmed with the Court's Clerk, as available. The pre-trial status conference shall be at least forty-five (45) calendar days prior to the trial date. The Court will determine whether the trial date should be scheduled when the Scheduling Order is entered or at the pre-trial status conference.

September 10, 2007
DATE

Joseph J. Fama Jr.
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE